

University of Tennessee Health Science Center
College of Medicine
Scholar's Year Program

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC), College of Medicine encourages its students to expand their knowledge and skills by seeking research or scholarly experiences outside the established curriculum. The Scholar's Year program at the University of Tennessee is available to students who have completed their second or third year of the curriculum and who are interested in completing a year-long experience in research, international medicine, or another pre-approved scholarly project.

- A Scholar's Year must start at the beginning of the academic year (e.g. July of the Fall semester) and be completed by the end of the same academic year (June of the Spring semester). Spanning two academic years is not allowed (e.g. starting in the Spring semester thru the following Fall semester).
- Students will be enrolled in a Special Topics course for five (5) credit hours each semester. Students will be expected to remain in contact with the College of Medicine, providing regular updates on their progress and a formal summary of their experiences upon return to the university. The course will be graded Pass/Fail and will appear on the student's transcript.
- Students should not enroll in any regular COM course during a Scholar's Year. If you do, you will be charged full tuition for that semester.
- Since the course is not part of the formal medical school curriculum, enrollment in the Special Topics course will not qualify the student to receive financial aid from UTHSC during the Scholar's Year.
- During the Scholar's Year, the student will receive a tuition waiver for the Special Topics course. However, students participating in the Scholar's Year Program will still be required to pay all necessary fees to maintain medical liability insurance, health insurance, and other fees as assessed by the Bursar's Office.
- Application for the Scholar's Year must be approved by the Associate Dean of Student Affairs (ADSA) and the Associate Dean of Medical Education (ADME).
- Applicant must be a full-time student in good standing with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.2. Student who have <3.2 GPA must request an exemption from the ADSA and ADME prior to submitting the application.
- Those who participate in their third-year must have received a passing score on USMLE Step 1.
- Those who participate in their fourth-year must have completed all of the M3 required clerkships and must have scheduled or have taken Step 2 CK and CS prior to beginning the Scholar's Year.
- Fourth-year participants must take an approved patient care intensive rotation immediately upon reentering the curriculum as a way to refresh clinical skills.

Students interested in an international experience must also meet all requirements for international experiences described on the "Travel Policy" website.

(<http://www.uthsc.edu/Medicine/students/policies/travel.php>).

Note: This program does not apply to cases in which a student decides to pursue an additional degree before completing his/her MD degree, i.e. PhD/MD program, MPH, etc. Please consult with the Associate Dean for Medical Education in such instances.

Scholar's Year Application and Contractual Agreement

Student Name: _____ Student ID #: _____

Currently anticipated date of graduation: _____

Title of research opportunity: _____

Mentor name and contact information: _____

Start date: _____ End Date: _____ Funding (if applicable): _____

Brief description of the program: _____

Initial

_____ I am a full-time student in good standing with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.2. (If GPA is <3.2 I have received an exemption from the ADME and ADSA)

_____ I am enrolled in a Special Topics course for five (5) credit hours this semester and the next.

_____ I understand that the course will be graded Pass/Fail and will appear on my student transcript.

_____ I understand that the Special Topics course will not qualify me to receive financial aid from UTHSC during the Scholar's year.

_____ I will pay all required fees to maintain medical liability insurance, health insurance if applicable, and other fees as assessed by the Bursar's Office each semester while on the Scholar's Year.

_____ I understand that I will be expected to remain in contact with the College of Medicine, providing regular updates on my progress and a formal summary of my experiences upon return to UTHSC.

For students applying after their M2 year:

_____ I have a passing score on USMLE Step 1

For students applying after their M3 year:

_____ I understand that I must complete all of the M3 required clerkships prior to my Scholar's Year.

_____ I have taken or have scheduled to take the USMLE Step 2 CK and CS

_____ I understand that I must take an approved patient care intensive rotation immediately upon reentering the M4 curriculum as a way to refresh clinical skills.

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Approved by:

Associate Dean of Medical Education: _____ Date: _____

Associate Dean of Student Affairs: _____ Date: _____